

*File Universal
Waste*

June 27, 1979

Mr. McCarthy - Syracuse Area Office

Mr. Marsch

Disposal of Transformers, Herkimer Road, (X) Schuyler, Herkimer County

On June 20, 1979, I received an anonymous telephone call indicating that Universal Waste had removed a number of wet transformers from their site on Leland Ave. to a location on Herkimer Road, east of the City of Utica, just prior to the inspection conducted on April 4, 1979.

On June 21, 1979, the writer accompanied by Mr. Carroll Swerecowski and Mr. Tom Keelty of the Department of Environmental Conservation investigated the above noted allegation. We found approximately 90 transformers on the property of Mr. John Lockwood located approximately 4 miles east of the City of Utica on the south side of Herkimer Road (location map attached).

Mr. Lockwood indicated that a Universal Waste truck had broke down in front of his property a few months ago. He allowed them to unload the transformers on his property to make repairs. He indicated that a Mr. Marino, who obtains the transformers from Niagara Mohawk, had called him a number of times to make arrangements for Mr. Lockwood to salvage the transformers. Mr. Lockwood has been pumping the transformer oil out and storing it in drums.

Mr. Tom Keelty took a number of pictures and two samples for PCB's. One sample was taken from a drum of oil reportedly pumped from the transformers and the other sample was obtained directly from a transformer. We also recorded the information off a number of the transformers. Mr. Lockwood was directed not to move or disturb the transformers or drained oil. This directive was followed up by certified mail.

The nearest home is approximately 300 feet away from the location of the transformers. A number of other homes were also noted in the area. The slope of the land is toward the Mohawk River. The area is rural farm land.

If you have any questions, please call.

cc: Dr. Mohanka

AM/lid